

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
HOSPITAL SCHOOL, *Canton*

AT CANTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1932

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



APR 5 1933

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
STATE HOUSE BOSTON  
MASS. OFFICIALS

## MASSACHUSETTS HOSPITAL SCHOOL

## TRUSTEES

WALTER C. BAYLIES, *Chairman*, Taunton  
GEORGE H. ELLIS, *Newton*  
WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD, *Brookline*  
ROBERT SOUTTER, M.D., *Boston*  
ANDREW MARSHALL, *Boston*

## RESIDENT OFFICERS

JOHN E. FISH, M.D., *Superintendent and Treasurer*  
LYSANDER S. KEMP, M.D., *Senior Physician*  
BENJAMIN E. WOOD, M.D., *Senior Physician*  
A. RITCHEY STAGG, M.D., *Assistant Physician*  
ANNA MINTZ, D.M.D., *Dentist.\**  
MABEL G. MORGAN, *Principal Bookkeeper*  
GEORGE H. LOMBARD, *Steward*  
RUTH PARK, B.S. Ed., *Social Worker*  
MEREDITH C. STEWART, R.N., *Superintendent of Nurses*  
ALEXSANDRAENA RUDLAND, *Hospital Supervisor*  
MILDRED L. SUKEFORTH, *Hospital Supervisor*  
ELIZABETH K. SULLIVAN, *Hospital Supervisor*  
RUTH ALLEN, R.N., *Hospital Supervisor*  
RUTH B. BONVIE, *Physiotherapist*  
JEANNETTE LECLAIR, *Dental Hygienist*  
MARGARET R. BRAYTON, A.B., *Head Teacher*  
LILLIAN S. SWIMM, *Head Housekeeper*  
JOHN SMITH, *Chief Engineer*  
WALTER R. SPAULDING, *Carpenter Foreman*  
JESS BLACK, *Farmer*.

\*Non-resident.

## TERMS OF ADMISSION

Crippled and deformed children of the Commonwealth, between the ages of five and fifteen years, who are mentally competent to attend public schools, are eligible for admission for hospital care and educational training.

Certain state minor wards who are not insane, feeble-minded, epileptic or otherwise unfit are admitted for hospital care only.

Payment for the board of private patients must be made in advance, unless sufficient surety therefor is given.

The institution is located on Randolph Street in the town of Canton, about two miles from Canton and Canton Junction stations of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

Automobile bus connects with two trains at Canton Junction station on Saturdays and Sundays.

Postoffice address: Canton, Massachusetts.

Applications for admission should be made to the superintendent.



## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council:*

The trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School, not unmindful of the disturbed condition of affairs, have decided that it is best not to make an extended report at this time but to let the Superintendent's report which is made a part of this report cover as it does fully the operations of the School for the past year.

With the growth of the popular interest in the social and economic problem of the crippled child and the independent undertakings for his welfare that were showing themselves in different parts of the country, the need of more definite, reliable and scientific knowledge of the character and extent of the problem was keenly felt by all agencies working for the welfare of crippled children. To this end Massachusetts has the honor of priority for a scientific state-wide survey which has resulted in a vigorous crusade throughout the State in the task of research, education and relief. The trustees desire to call attention to the final report of the Department of Public Welfare relative to the number and care of crippled children, December, 1931.

There are several projects which will need attention when normal times return, and one which will need immediate attention as soon as the engineers can get plans ready, i.e. the sewage question.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER C. BAYLIES, *Chairman*

GEORGE H. ELLIS

WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD

ROBERT SOUTTER, M.D.

ANDREW MARSHALL

*Trustees.*

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

*To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School:*

In a period of economic distress, when every effort should be made to reduce expenditures to the lowest practicable minimum, the cost of publishing my twenty-fifth annual report appropriately may be limited to a simple statement of facts.

Six hundred ninety-six children have been under treatment during the year. There were in the institution on November 30, 1931, 329 children, 166 girls and 163 boys. There have been admitted 367 children, 167 girls and 200 boys. The maximum number at any one time was 326 and the minimum 183. The discharges numbered 387, of whom 176 were girls and 211 boys, leaving in the institution at the end of the year 309 children, 157 girls and 152 boys.

The average age of all children admitted during the year was 8 years, 8 months and 26 days, the youngest being 7 months and the oldest 18 years, 7 months and 23 days.

Exclusive of 10 whose birthplaces were unknown, 299, or 81.7%, of the 366 children admitted were born in Massachusetts; 53, or 14.4%, were born in other parts of the United States; and 4, or 1%, came from foreign countries. The nativity of 76 fathers and 40 mothers was unknown. Out of the remainder, 91, or 24.86%, of the fathers and 115, or 31.42%, of the mothers were born in Massachusetts; 52 fathers and 62 mothers were born in other parts of the United States; and 147, or 40.16%, of the fathers and 149, or 40.71%, of the mothers were foreign-born.

Three hundred, or 82%, of the children admitted came upon the application of the Director of Child Guardianship of the State Department of Public Welfare. While some of these minor wards of the State were received for observation and advice before placement in foster homes, the majority were accepted for treatment for acute curable diseases and soon were discharged as recovered.

The daily average number of such cases admitted for hospital care only was 30.24 and the daily average number of crippled and deformed children was 270.47, making the total daily average for the year 300.71.

Among the discharged minor wards who were admitted for hospital care only 299 had recovered and 26 had been deemed chronic and not likely to

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derive benefit from further hospital care in an institution whose chief function so far as such children are concerned is cure as distinguished from mere custody and care. While it is the primary function of the Hospital School to provide educational opportunities for the crippled and deformed children of the State, the advantages of extending hospital care to certain sick minor wards each year have become more and more apparent. The vital interests of the orthopedic or school children, who must of necessity be classified from time to time in hospital wards, has not been found to be imperiled by immediate contact with a comparatively small number of non-orthopedic sick children.

Convalescence in the orthopedic school children is apt to be slow and incomplete, while prompt recovery from the acute curable diseases and surgical emergencies for which the State minor wards are received tends to stimulate even a competent and well-trained medical and nursing service. The effect of these recoveries has been agreeably felt during the past year in a lively hospital service which unquestionably counteracts the crystallizing influence of chronicity and monotonous routine.

Two hundred seventy-six surgical operations have been performed as follows: Adenectomy 9; advancement of tenotomy of left eye 1; astragalectomy 1; circumcision 13; correction of congenital club foot 5; excision of enchondromata of hand 1; excision of head of radius 1; excision of tumor of face 1; excision of tumor of knee 1; excision of tumor of scalp 1; Hoke stabilizing operation 5; incision and drainage of abscess of ankle 2; incision and drainage of abscess of arm 1; incision and drainage of abscess of buttock 1; incision and drainage of abscess of chest wall 1; incision and drainage of abscess of face 1; incision and drainage of abscess of foot 1; incision and drainage of abscess of groin 1; incision and drainage of ischio-rectal abscess 1; incision and drainage of appendicial abscess 1; incision and drainage of tibia 1; mastoidectomy 2; orchiopexy 1; Orr operation for osteomyelitis of os calcis 1; Orr operation for osteomyelitis of metatarsal 1; osteotomy for bow legs 3; osteotomy for pseudarthrosis of tibia 1; paracentesis of tympanum 1; radical cure of inguinal hernia 2; reamputation of lower leg 1; removal of ingrown toe nail 1; repair of circumcision 2; sequestrectomy of femur 1; sequestrectomy of left tibia 1; tapping of hydrocele 1; tarsectomy 1; tendon lengthening 1; tenotomy 2; tonsillectomy 2; and tonsillectomy and adenectomy 201.

Of the 56 orthopedic school cases who were discharged, 15 had completed the prescribed course of study and were qualified for high school or some useful occupation. Four failed to return from visits to their homes and automatically were discharged at the end of the year. Two boys were discharged as defective delinquents. Nineteen had recovered or were so much improved that they were no longer in need of care and special training. Sixteen were physically or mentally unpromising and the school had nothing further to offer for their advancement.

Occasionally parents have voluntarily removed feeble-minded children, but usually such children are removed only upon the initiative of the institution. The fact that the children, though admittedly of weak mentality, are crippled and therefore should be allowed to remain in a school for cripples is at times set up as a plea for continuous residence. It is manifest, however, that the Hospital School is fulfilling its mission best by bestowing every possible benefit upon the crippled children who are mentally promising and who therefore should not be in intimate daily contact even with a few feeble-minded children who would be a hindrance to their advancement.

There were 6 deaths during the year from the following causes: One from tuberculous disease of hip and spine; one from accidental drowning; one from diphtheria; one from progressive muscular hypertrophy; one from congenital malformations; and one from progressive muscular dystrophy.

Expenditures for the year amounted to \$184,638.97 or \$6,270.54 less than last year and \$14,815.48 less than the cost of maintenance for the fiscal year 1930. It seemed probable early in the year that the sum appropriated for maintenance would be found to be inadequate and that demands upon the sup-



plementary budget might be necessary to meet an anticipated deficiency. However, a falling market and the practice of rigid economy made it possible to close the year with an unexpended balance of \$8,827.04 to be returned to the State Treasury.

#### ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES

as reviewed by the Budget Commissioner for legislative action may be summarized as follows:—

##### PERSONAL SERVICES

There have been no increases in salaries and very few changes in personnel. In a quota of 126 employees, many of whom remained in the service when more attractive wages were common elsewhere, more than 77% never have been advanced to the maximum rate in the approved standard scale. New employees have been entered at or below the minimum rate. Nevertheless, time lost for sickness and other causes has been less than ever before and this unprecedented stability of service made it advisable in August to grant an extended vacation without pay to a few deserving employees. In this way the allotment of \$117,000 for personal services was carried through the year on the favorable side of the ledger with a balance of \$48.

##### RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

has been given under the arrangement originally made for the spiritual welfare of all, and the small payment of \$1500 divided among the several visiting clergymen changes only with the number of Sundays in the calendar. Mass for those of the Roman Catholic faith is held every Sunday morning. Clergymen of the local Protestant churches alternate in conducting Sunday services at 4 o'clock in the afternoon and a class in Jewish history and religion is held on Saturday mornings at 11 o'clock.

##### TRAVEL, TRANSPORTATION AND OFFICE EXPENSES

represent an expenditure for the year of \$2,406.89 or \$378.25 less than the sum appropriated for such items as telephone and telegraph, office supplies, postage and printing. With the exception of the annual report, practically all of the institution printing is done by boys in the printing class as part of their regular training under the direction of a graduate of this school ('26). Traveling expenses are limited almost exclusively to the needs of the steward whose shopping duties average one day in the market each week and to the travel expenses for social service which are even less.

For a number of years the expenditures for

##### FOOD

exclusive of milk, eggs, vegetables and other products of the farm were approximately \$25,000 annually. In 1930 our food costs were reduced about 10%. Another 8% reduction was made in 1931 and for the year just closed an additional reduction of 19% was possible or a total of 37% in three years without lowering of standards in the least degree or materially changing the inventory. Meats, provisions and other foods obtained through the State's Purchasing Bureau and fresh fruits and other perishable foods selected by our own steward have been of the highest standard quality. Our splendid herd of high-grade Guernsey cows have supplied an abundance of milk averaging more than one quart per day for each one in our entire population. The unprecedented decline in prices was not anticipated when the allotment of \$18,400 for food was made available and we closed the year with an unexpended balance in this division of \$1,503.97.

While food costs were greatly reduced, the condition of the times was reflected in the small amount of

##### CLOTHING

parents were able to supply as compared to the days of greater prosperity. To keep within the allowance of \$3,700 for clothing and materials it was nec-



essary to carry forward into the new fiscal year the purchase of some of our customary winter stock.

It might be expected that parents who feel the pinch of the times also might feel compelled to visit their children less frequently or that the depression might be a deterrent toward requests to take children for the customary week-end, birthday, brief vacation or holiday visits. It has been found, however, that the total number of home visits represents a total of 7,397 days' absence as compared to 7,428 last year. There has been close and continuous cooperation between the parents and members of the staff for visits which tend to strengthen home ties and may be helpful in solving local problems in the communities in which children eventually may be expected to be employed.

#### HEAT, LIGHT AND POWER PLANT OPERATION

involves expenditures for coal which annually are carried forward into the next fiscal year as liabilities, because what may be termed the coal year begins in the spring when contracts can be made on the most favorable market. An average of 2,000 tons of bituminous coal annually is required for our boilers. Five dollars and forty-five cents per ton, delivered, was the contract price this year and the amount on hand on November 30th exceeded by 710 tons the quantity delivered at the same time last year. Water is another item in this division for which the town of Canton was paid \$2,402.53 for 14,903,317 gallons. Operating supplies for boilers and engines involved an expenditure of \$81.23 and we paid \$324.44 for ice to supplement our harvest of 280 tons. Lubricating oil cost \$178.04 and 93 tons of coke were purchased for the cooking ranges at a cost of \$799.90.

#### MEDICAL AND GENERAL CARE

is classified into many subdivisions which show but slight variation from year to year either in quantity, consumption or prices paid. From an allowance of \$6,300 we were able to return a balance of \$1,086.04. Orthopedic supplies, including wheel-chairs and crutches, steel, leather and other materials for the manufacture of splints, braces and various kinds of surgical appliances always are an important item of expense. Seldom do we have occasion to purchase any finished pieces of orthopedic apparatus. They are made by resident mechanics for each individual child according to the specifications of members of the staff. Apparatus is frequently made for former pupils of the school and charged for at the cost of labor and materials. School books, manual training supplies and entertainments are other necessities which have been reduced to the minimum cost of \$641.32.

The trustees' gift of a talking motion picture equipment has afforded much pleasure to children and employees alike and at comparatively small expense for "entertainment."

The cost of medicines, laboratory and hospital supplies amounting to \$2,993.01 was surprisingly low when the amount of surgical work and nursing care is considered. Bandages and surgical dressings have called for the use of 44,200 yards of cotton gauze, 5,135 yards of sheet wadding and 3,244 pounds of cellu cotton.

Specialists have been called in consultation whenever the need for expert advice has been apparent in special cases, and the institution is indebted to Dr. H. B. C. Riemer, Dr. Leighton Johnson, Dr. Bronson Crothers, Dr. Walter A. Griffin, and the medical member of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Robert Soutter, for advice in their respective specialties. While these and consultants in previous years promptly and cheerfully have responded to the call for assistance without thought of financial compensation, a nominal fee has been sent as reimbursement for travelling expenses in certain cases. The total cost for "extra medical attendance" during the year amounted to but \$170.00.

With the exception of a few persons who were excused for justifiable reasons, every employee in the nursing service has been immunized for typhoid fever. In accordance with the custom of previous years all children except those who come for a very brief period have been given the Schick test to



determine their susceptibility to diphtheria, and those who were not found to be immune to the disease were, with parental approval, rendered so by toxin-antitoxin.

The service at the hospital to which all new cases are admitted has been seriously interrupted by quarantine for diphtheria amounting to a total of 186 days. By a strange coincidence, the only child in our entire school population whose parents emphatically objected to immunizing serum made a visit to Boston, contracted diphtheria, and it became necessary to restrict admissions to the Infirmary for 28 days. Another child developed diphtheria a few days after admission and was the cause of another period of quarantine for 15 days. Children received through the Division of Child Guardianship, who are as a rule not Schick tested or immunized before admission, were the cause of another period of 143 days of quarantine either by having positive diphtheritic throats on admission or developing the disease soon after. The advisability of having all State minor wards immunized for diphtheria or at least given the Schick test for the practical classification of potential sources of diphtheritic infection is emphasized by our experience this year. It is apparent, however, that protective measures, however desirable they may be, are practically impossible in some cases and difficult of accomplishment in many others. With the whole-hearted cooperation which the Director of Child Guardianship invariably has shown for the welfare of the children in that Department, it is hoped that some more satisfactory solution may be found to this trying problem. In spite of the precautions taken to eliminate diphtheria from our group, the chance coincident occurrence of 10 cases of diphtheria brought to us during the year has aroused active interest in its eradication. All other contagious diseases include 2 cases of chicken-pox, one case of mumps and one case of scarlet fever. One employee and one patient were found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and were transferred to tuberculosis sanatoria.

Work in the resident medical service has not been materially changed during the year. Its scope as heretofore is not limited to perfected technique in the field of professional training but embraces in addition a close study of individual patients at school, at play and in their varied activities. Physicians and children are seen together not occasionally, but as a part of the life of the school, on the baseball field, at the Thursday afternoon teas, at the motion picture entertainments and at parties. This intimate daily association between surgeon and patient has the supreme advantage of eliminating fear and anxiety, of inspiring confidence and facilitating care which few private homes or general hospitals can provide. Frequently children are heard to ask, "When may I please have my operation?" and it is gratifying to see these young patients as a general rule eagerly helpful in the preparation for a surgical operation, and coming through the ordeal with little or no prostration of the bodily functions from surgical procedure or mental disturbance, so that with a supporting plaster of Paris bandage and wheel-cart they may be seen in their customary places again at class or party within three or four days time.

On July 1st Dr. A. Ritchey Stagg came to us well recommended from the Nashville, Tennessee, General Hospital where he served his internship, and with the indorsement of the National Board of Examiners, to devote special attention to the study of orthopedics. He has entered upon his duties with an eagerness that already has borne good fruit.

Since the appointment of a resident dental hygienist was made the dentist, whose speciality is exclusively limited to child dentistry, has collected a mass of clinical observations some of which should be published. Her summary of the year's work and that of the hygienist follows:

The oral condition of most of the new patients showed extensive caries requiring large restoration, and many abscessed teeth in badly mutilated mouths. Aside from the frequent periodic examinations made by the dental hygienist, the dentist examined the mouth of each child and classified all cases into three groups: Children requiring no dental work, those whose teeth



showed superficial cavities, and urgent cases needing immediate attention. Sixty-six mouths were found to be in good condition. The teeth of 129 children showed superficial cavities and 107 others required immediate dental attention. Most of the dentist's time was devoted to work on those in the third group and the immediate care of all orthopedic cases when admitted. There were at the end of the year 26 urgent cases still untreated. The dental hygienist has rendered 169 treatments for prophylaxis, each child averaging about three or four treatments during the year. Whenever an examination reveals an urgent condition, an appointment with the dentist is made immediately. The dental hygienist also performs irrigations, gum massage and such other treatment as she is authorized to render when the dentist is not present. The treatments which always are prescribed by the dentist numbered 225 during the year. Special attention is given by the dental hygienist to the proper use of the tooth brush, and individual instruction is given and followed up when necessary. In addition to the work which the dental hygienist performs in her own particular field, she has been especially helpful to the medical staff in laboratory technique, such as photographing all school patients, developing and printing negatives, checking vision and hearing of all school children, and doing such other routine laboratory work as chemical urinary analyses and the care of the dispensary.

#### FURNISHING AND HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

included such items as electric lamps for which we paid \$137.47, dry goods and small wares costing \$98.47, table linens, paper napkins, etc., \$449.76, and crockery, glassware, cutlery, etc. \$325.06. The largest cost items in this division were for laundry supplies and materials \$661.76, kitchen and household wares \$836.53 and beds and bedding \$749.23. When the Superintendent's House was completed and ready for occupancy on the evening of December 1st adequate housing accommodations were available for the family of one Senior Assistant Physician in the apartment of the Administration Building formerly occupied by the Superintendent's family. The physician's suite of rooms in the West wing of the Nurses' Home was assigned to the Steward whose three rooms in the Administration Building became the residence of the Chief Engineer, his wife and daughter. The expenses involved in these changes were comparatively small as all three officials requested permission to use some of their own furniture. The request was granted in the hope that successors in office might not soon make demands upon the budget for replacements of personal property. From an appropriation of \$5,000 for furnishings and household supplies we closed the year with a balance in this division of our budget of \$184.77.

The greatest items of expense under

#### FARM

for which an allowance of \$11,400 was made for the year was for hay \$2,286.54 and grain \$4,641.47. To offset this expenditure the farm yielded 129,129 quarts of milk, our most important food, which was produced at an estimated cost of \$.0537 per quart. The poultry plant supplied 8,435 5/12 dozen eggs and 6,081 pounds of dressed poultry and was operated at an estimated profit of \$506.72. Dressed pork credited at an authorized price of \$.08 showed an estimated loss of \$1,710.90 which includes a shrinkage in inventory of \$812 on 11,320 1/2 pounds produced. Aside from our wholesome supply of milk and eggs, which if necessity demanded might be replaced by inferior substitutes, the greatest benefit derived from the farm which it is not possible to obtain otherwise than by resident labor of men and teams is statistically recorded as "other institution work." Crediting the farm with the value of such work as well as that of farm products the record of the year shows a profit of \$3,114.49. Better pasture upon land recently cleared and more green feed and ensilage for our cows were other factors which made it possible to complete the year with a balance under "farm" of \$2,100.46.



## GARAGE AND GROUNDS

Motor vehicle repairs cost for the year was \$263.72 and motor vehicle supplies including gasoline and oil \$389.18. A new Ford truck with a pick-up body for work formerly done by horses was purchased at \$453.25.

Road work, tools, implements, shrubs, seeds, etc., in connection with the care of the playgrounds and lawns cost \$322.22, leaving a balance of \$471.63 in this division.

## REPAIRS ORDINARY

always an important item of expense which is bound to increase with the age of buildings, some of which never represented substantial constructions, include in the official classification, boiler and dynamo repairs, steam fitting and plumbing supplies, paints, oil, glass, hardware, electric supplies, lumber, etc. Among the more important items under this heading mention may be made of new roofing with copper edge strips and copper flashings on the deck of the Administration Building. Other old roofing also was replaced with new on the deck of the Girls' Cottage, the root cellar and one silo. A new partition was built in the head barn for the more accurate storage of hay and grain. An extension of 32 feet was added to the poultry house and new ceilings were laid in several of the rooms in the Administration Building and part of the West dormitory corridors. Fifty-two new window screens and 4 new screen doors were made for the Superintendent's House and alterations were made in the rooms of the West wing of the Nurses' Home to provide small kitchen and dining room facilities for the Steward. Some furniture is made and much more repaired in our carpenter shop which is also called upon for wooden highsoles, crutches, wheel-chairs and other appliances necessary to keep pace with the wear and tear of property and buildings occupied by many irresponsible children. The high pressure water storage tank was given two coats of aluminum paint and the underside of the pergola roof comprising an area of about 5,000 square yards also was painted with aluminum. The walls and ceiling of the operating room and the walls and ceilings in many rooms of different buildings were treated with lead and oil, altogether making it a busy year for 4 carpenters and painters who were employed for maintenance repairs for which an allowance of \$4,500 was granted and the sum of \$3,995.49 expended.

It is gratifying to be able to report a total unexpended balance at the end of the year of \$8,827.04. Not that we had by any means exhausted all opportunities for the expenditure of money. Our excuse lies in the fact that every loyal associate in the service of the institution has made an effort to reduce maintenance costs to the lowest practicable minimum. Certain important needs must be met soon, and while in the coming year every means should be employed to reduce costs reference is hereby made to my report of last year as a matter of record that the needs are still apparent.

"The East and West Dormitories, two wooden buildings, cheaply constructed and undesirable from many points of view, have served their purpose and should be replaced at an early date if adequate accommodations are to be maintained."

"The town of Canton has come within the Metropolitan Sewer district. Extension pipe lines have been laid from some of the village streets to join the large Neponset Valley main. Gradually, other connections are to be made and the local sewer commission in cooperation with the State Board of Health engineers have called attention to the advisability at an early date of an extension of the town sewer pipe on Pleasant Street, provided the State will connect at some point along the outlet of Reservoir Pond, the only feasible point for the institution to join the sewer."

We may continue to struggle on with the East and West Dormitories a while longer but the sewer should be regarded from the standpoint of urgency as soon as the report of the State Board of Health engineers has been made as a basis for legislative consideration early in the coming session.



## EDUCATIONAL

activities and the responsibilities of the teaching staff are definitely separated from the medical and nursing service. Yet each must be coordinated at many points and adjustments also made to harmonize our efforts for the welfare of the children with their parents and with the community. The solution of many inter-departmental and community problems has been found through social service which has maintained its place as one of the most important branches of the work.

## SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

*To the Superintendent:*

The field work done during the year just closed has covered the usual three classes. These are the visits to look up new cases applying for admission to the School, those made to arrange for certain cases for discharge, and miscellaneous errands developing from the interrelations between the School and the community.

Many of our discharged cases, especially among the younger children, go directly back into their own homes, and as a result of their school work here, go on in their classes in the public schools without serious loss of time, even though their convalescence may have extended over a period of years. They came to us upon the request of their parents or guardians to whom they are also returned. Their problems are rather orthopedic and educational than social. The solution lies in the utmost possible correction of the physical disabilities which brought them to us, and in our provision of educational advantages comparable to those offered to the other children of the Commonwealth.

Another class of patients discharged need rather more help on their return to normal life. These are the girls and boys whose family ties have been broken by misfortunes of various sorts. They need new connections established, and new guidance sought. Given suitable opportunities, some of these become numbered among our most worthy and worth-while graduates.

The third class of discharges are those of children who have been found during their stay with us, to be in need of permanent custodial care. We always have a few who are found to be more suitable for some other type of institution, such as one of the schools for the feeble-minded. It then becomes necessary to arrange details, and make the transfer to the most appropriate place.

Though unprecedented economic conditions still continue, it is encouraging to report that our graduates do continue to find opportunities for full or partial self-support.

Our girls who receive the excellent domestic training at our cottages, have been placed as mother's helpers and in varying forms of domestic work. One found a place in a private hospital of long standing in the city of her birth, and plans to continue her studies as soon as she has gained her financial footing. One of our secretarial class, having reached our age-limit, was able to get part-time clerical work near her father's home. She proved satisfactory in this, and is now to be assisted to carry on advanced commercial courses, while keeping her working connection in her spare time. Another girl in these classes found clerical work in a suburban day-school during her summer vacation. She proved valuable enough so that she is now studying with added interest, in the hope that she may sometime find a permanent position of the same sort. Another girl of the secretarial group found on her discharge a position with a small domestic concern, where she could answer the telephone, make out bills, and do other work of the same kind. The last three girls mentioned are all permanently and heavily handicapped. Their experience shows that if given an opportunity, they prove efficient at this type of work.

The Alumni Reunion in June, 1932, was one of the most interesting gatherings ever held at the School. Nearly 130 graduates sat down to the dinner. The occasion was made memorable by the presentation to the Superintendent of a beautiful garden sun-dial, the gift of the Association in recognition of his recently completed 25 years of service in his present position. The shaft



is of highly polished Vermont marble, and the dial of bronze, cast from the design modeled by a young man of the M.H.S. class of 1913. He finds time from an exacting and responsible business life to follow the study of art, and has already produced results of genuine worth.

Twenty years have now passed since our first class was given the School diploma, in June, 1912. Our earlier graduates are now old enough to make it possible to judge their attainments. That so many young men and women of these earlier classes are holding positions of trust and importance in their respective communities, is cause for pride to those who knew them as girls and boys. They have been twice victorious, once in the stern struggle which meets every man who earns his bread, and once in their combat with serious, often permanent, physical handicap.

The Hospital School, numbering as it does over 400 adults and children, develops a community life and spirit of its own. The question of entertainment and recreation, so important in the sustaining of morale, is met in part by many visits from generous groups of outside friends, and in part by the children themselves. Besides their parties and holiday celebrations, they have their concerts and plays. We encourage various types of dramatic work, which have a positive social and educational value. Last year, besides the regular holiday observances by assemblies at the Hall, the older classes held a midwinter stunt night, in which the cottages and dormitories each put on one act. Much good-natured competition resulted in some elaborate and original numbers, producing a performance which compared favorably with those brought us by outside talent. The graduating class as its offering presented three one-act plays, showing much thought and care in their presentation.

The total number of different pupils enrolled in our classes for the school year ending June 24, 1932, was 294. The attendance in the various divisions was as follows:

	Average Membership	Average daily Attendance	Per cent Attendance
Grades 7-8-Secretarial . . . . .	51.82	49.74	96
Grades 4-5-6 . . . . .	59.02	56.88	92+
Grades 2-3 . . . . .	52.26	51.17	99+
Grades 1-Sub-primary . . . . .	44.25	43.16	97+
Special ungraded . . . . .	43.34	42.17	97+

The eighth grade activities have with years built up an interesting program. The organization, with regular class meetings outside of school hours, the class play, the tree, the May breakfast and the ride are largely carried on with the help of pupil committees, and offer valuable lessons in self-direction and cooperation. The class tree this year was a fine flowering dogwood. This was dedicated by the class to the memory of Dr. Ora G. Daniels, whom all remember as a valued friend.

As 1932 has seen a nation-wide observance of the bi-centennial anniversary of the birth of Washington, the graduation exercises were centered around his life. They summed up a year in which much historical study had focussed on the man and his period. The class motto was appropriately, "Truth above everything." The program consisted of a short pageant, introducing scenes from Washington's life and written by a member of the class with recitations and original essays on the same subject. Diplomas were awarded to fourteen graduates, nine girls and five boys.

#### GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENTS

Friends from far and near have generously contributed time and money in furnishing our children with plays, parties, concerts and other entertainments. Equally liberal has been their donation of gifts not for Christmas alone, but at various other times through the year. Organizations thus favoring us have numbered 41. There have also been a large number of individual givers. To all these our children owe more pleasure than it is easy to describe. We sincerely appreciate every effort of our kind donors.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH PARK, *Social Worker.*



In closing the record of twenty-five years it is worthy of remark that when the Massachusetts Hospital School was established the needs of crippled children generally were not appreciated, although institutions for the relief of the deaf, of the blind and mentally defective had long been regarded as a necessary function of government. Within this brief period of years many well-organized general hospital facilities and orthopedic clinics have been enlarged and new ones established in various parts of the State, and public interest in the welfare of crippled children has become widespread. Home teaching of crippled children has been made possible by legislative authority. In several cities of the State special classes for crippled children are maintained as a necessary part of the public school system, and an annual census of all crippled children of school age is required by the Acts of 1930 so that it is now possible for the Department of Public Welfare, in cooperation with the State Board of Education, to make scientific and practical classification of all crippled children in the Commonwealth. The report of the Department of Public Welfare relative to the number and care of crippled children, December, 1931, points out that with all the facilities, both public and private, what the Commonwealth needs today more than anything else is the vigorous backing of an enlightened, thoroughly aroused, public opinion expressing itself in an insistent demand that when surgery and education have done their part the physical cripple should not be forced to confront a frowning world when in search of employment consistent with his ability.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FISH, M.D., *Superintendent.*

# STATISTICS

## CENSUS

	School Department	Hospital Department	Total
November 30, 1931 . . . . .	283	46	329
Admitted during year . . . . .	66	300	366
Returned from visit of last year . . . . .	1	—	1
Whole number under treatment . . . . .	350	346	696
Discharged . . . . .	60	327	387
	290	19	309

  

	Yrs.	Mos.	Days
Average age of all admissions . . . . .	8	8	26
Youngest . . . . .	—	7	—
Oldest . . . . .	18	7	23

## DIAGNOSIS ON ADMISSION

### School Department

	Boys	Girls
Anterior poliomyelitis . . . . .	8	8
Arthritis, atrophic, chronic . . . . .	—	1
Arthritis, infectious . . . . .	1	—
Arthritis, septic . . . . .	—	1
Cerebral palsy . . . . .	—	1
Congenital absence of femora . . . . .	—	1
Congenital club foot . . . . .	4	—
Congenital club foot; internal strabismus . . . . .	1	—
Congenital coxa vara; fracture of hip . . . . .	—	1
Congenital deformity of shoulder . . . . .	—	1
Congenital dislocation of hip . . . . .	—	2
Congenital dislocation of hips; gonorrhea . . . . .	—	1
Fracture of both bones of leg . . . . .	1	—
Fracture of elbow . . . . .	—	1
Fracture of femur . . . . .	—	1
Fracture of femur; osteomyelitis . . . . .	1	—
Fracture of tibia, ununited . . . . .	1	—



<i>School Department—Continued</i>		Boys	Girls
Obstetrical paralysis . . . . .	1	—	13
Osteomyelitis, chronic . . . . .	5	1	—
Periostitis of tibia, acute . . . . .	—	1	—
Progressive muscular dystrophy . . . . .	2	—	—
Rickets, bow leg and knock-knee . . . . .	—	1	—
Scoliosis . . . . .	1	—	—
Spastic paralysis . . . . .	1	5	—
Spina bifida with paralysis . . . . .	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of hip . . . . .	1	1	—
Tuberculosis of hip, fused . . . . .	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of hips . . . . .	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of knee . . . . .	2	—	—
Tuberculosis of knee, fused . . . . .	—	1	—
Tuberculosis of spine . . . . .	1	1	—
Tuberculosis of spine and hip . . . . .	—	1	—
Undiagnosed . . . . .	1	—	—
<i>Hospital Department</i>		32	34
Abscess of lung . . . . .	—	1	—
Adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	1	—	—
Angioneurotic edema . . . . .	2	—	—
Appendicitis, acute . . . . .	—	2	—
Bronchitis, acute . . . . .	1	—	—
Cystitis . . . . .	—	1	—
Deviated septum; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	1	—	—
Diarrhea, infectious . . . . .	1	—	—
Eczema . . . . .	1	3	—
Endocarditis; chorea . . . . .	1	—	—
Enuresis . . . . .	3	—	—
Fracture of base of skull . . . . .	—	1	—
Gonorrheal vaginitis . . . . .	—	11	—
Hernia, inguinal oblique . . . . .	1	—	—
Impetigo . . . . .	7	1	—
Impetigo; pediculosis; dental caries . . . . .	1	—	—
Impetigo; rickets; malnutrition . . . . .	—	1	—
Otitis media . . . . .	1	2	—
Otitis media; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	—	1	—
Phimosis . . . . .	6	—	—
Phimosis; nasal obstruction . . . . .	1	—	—
Phimosis; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	1	—	—
Phimosis; urticaria . . . . .	1	—	—
Post-diphtheritic paralysis . . . . .	1	—	—
Prolapsed rectum; dental caries . . . . .	1	—	—
Scabies . . . . .	13	7	—
Scabies; bronchitis, acute; otitis media . . . . .	1	—	—
Scabies; dental caries . . . . .	1	—	—
Scabies; ichthyosis . . . . .	1	—	—
Scabies; impetigo . . . . .	2	—	—
Scabies; otitis media . . . . .	1	—	—
Scabies; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	2	1	—
Syncope . . . . .	1	—	—
Syphilis; congenital . . . . .	1	8	—
Syphilis, congenital; dental caries; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	—	1	—
Syphilis, congenital; tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	—	1	—
Tonsillitis, chronic . . . . .	1	—	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged . . . . .	81	66	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; dental caries . . . . .	19	18	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; hydrocele . . . . .	1	—	—



<i>Hospital Department—Continued</i>						Boys	Girls
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; impetigo . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; myocarditis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; otitis media . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	2
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; phimosis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	6	—
Tonsils and adenoids, enlarged; scabies . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	—
Undescended testicle . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	—
Vaginitis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	—	3
Wen of scalp . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	—	1
						168	132

## NATIVITY AND PARENTAGE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED

Birthplace	Patient	Father	Mother
Massachusetts . . . . .	299	91	115
Other New England States . . . . .	37	30	42
Other States . . . . .	16	22	20
Total Native . . . . .	352	143	177
Other Countries:			
Albania . . . . .	—	1	—
Armenia . . . . .	—	3	2
Assyria . . . . .	—	—	1
Austria . . . . .	—	1	6
Austria-Poland . . . . .	—	—	1
Canada . . . . .	4	24	38
Cape Verde Islands . . . . .	—	15	12
England . . . . .	—	1	4
Germany . . . . .	—	—	1
Greece . . . . .	—	5	4
Hungary . . . . .	—	1	1
Ireland . . . . .	—	4	4
Isle of Cyprus . . . . .	—	1	—
Italy . . . . .	—	44	34
Lithuania . . . . .	—	5	6
Newfoundland . . . . .	—	2	2
Poland . . . . .	—	24	26
Portugal . . . . .	—	1	1
Russia . . . . .	—	9	5
Scotland . . . . .	—	1	—
South America . . . . .	—	1	—
Sweden . . . . .	—	1	—
Syria . . . . .	—	3	1
Total Foreign . . . . .	4	147	149
Unknown . . . . .	10	76	40
	366	366	366

## VALUATION

November 30, 1932

## REAL ESTATE

Land, 165.72 acres . . . . .	\$41,806.00
Buildings . . . . .	676,144.18

\$717,950.18

## PERSONAL PROPERTY

Travel, transportation and office expenses . . . . .	\$44.65
Food . . . . .	3,411.57
Clothing and materials . . . . .	2,300.11
Furnishings and household supplies . . . . .	59,107.01
Medical and general care . . . . .	13,922.81
Heat, light and power . . . . .	4,532.01
Farm . . . . .	18,009.30
Garage, stable and grounds . . . . .	4,697.77
Repairs . . . . .	5,128.54

\$111,153.77



## SUMMARY

Real estate . . . . .	\$717,950.18
Personal property . . . . .	111,153.77
	<hr/>
	\$829,103.95

## TREASURER'S REPORT

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School:

I respectfully submit the following report of the finances of this institution for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1932:

<i>Receipts</i>	
<i>Income</i>	
Board of inmates . . . . .	\$64,247.28
Personal Services:	
Reimbursement from Board of Retirement . . . . .	77.02
Sales . . . . .	250.21
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	87.03
Rent . . . . .	176.75
Refunds, account of previous years . . . . .	89.63
	<hr/>
	\$64,927.92
<i>Receipts from Treasury of Commonwealth:</i>	
Advance Fund . . . . .	\$13,000.00
Maintenance appropriation . . . . .	117,712.89
Special appropriation . . . . .	76.50
	<hr/>
	130,789.39
Total . . . . .	<hr/>
	\$195,717.31
<i>Payments</i>	
To Treasury of Commonwealth . . . . .	\$64,838.29
Maintenance appropriation . . . . .	117,712.89
Special appropriation . . . . .	76.50
Advance Fund . . . . .	13,000.00
Refunds, account of previous years . . . . .	89.63
	<hr/>
	\$195,717.31
<i>Maintenance</i>	
Appropriation current year . . . . .	\$193,238.62
Expenses as analyzed below . . . . .	184,411.58
	<hr/>
	\$8,827.04

Total receipts and payments are in agreement with Comptroller's books of accounts.

<i>Analysis of Expenses</i>	
Personal services . . . . .	\$116,592.00
Food . . . . .	16,951.44
Medical and general care . . . . .	5,233.75
Farm . . . . .	9,306.24
Heat, light and power . . . . .	17,996.12
Garage, stable and grounds . . . . .	1,428.37
Travel, transportation and office expenses . . . . .	2,406.89
Religious instruction . . . . .	1,510.00
Clothing and material . . . . .	3,429.90
Furnishings and household supplies . . . . .	4,815.23
Repairs—ordinary . . . . .	3,995.49
Repairs and renewals . . . . .	386.15
	<hr/>
Total expenses for maintenance . . . . .	\$184,051.58
<i>SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS</i>	
Balance November 30, 1931 . . . . .	\$8,404.04
Expended during year (see statement below) . . . . .	7,515.06
	<hr/>
	\$888.98

Reverted to State Treasury . . . . .	413.13
	<hr/>
Balance November 30, 1932 . . . . .	\$475.85
Purchase of land . . . . .	\$431.28
Cottage for convalescent children . . . . .	413.13*
Clearing Land . . . . .	42.55
Superintendent's house . . . . .	2.02
	<hr/>
	\$888.98

\*Reverted

## PER CAPITA

During the year the average number of inmates has been 300.71.

Total cost for maintenance, \$184,411.58.  
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$11.793.  
 Receipts from sales, \$209.21.  
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$.016.  
 All other institution receipts \$64,588.08.  
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$4.13.  
 Net weekly per capita cost \$7.647.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FISH, M.D., Treasurer.



